

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 17, 2004

Ms. Dina Powell
Director
Office of Presidential Personnel
The White House
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Director Powell:

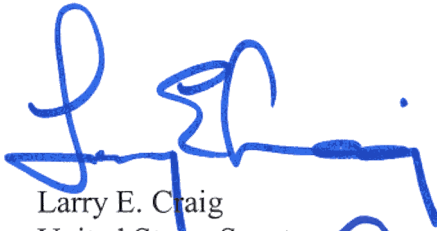
Since our earlier correspondence with you, dated November 18, 2004, regarding the position of Regional Administrator for Region 10 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), we have received a reply from Administrator Michael Leavitt, that EPA, in consultation with the White House, is considering candidates for this position. Administrator Leavitt has solicited our suggestions for this post.

In our prior letter, we communicated our belief regarding the importance of selecting an Idahoan for this position. The last four EPA Region 10 Administrators have been selected from the other three Region 10 states - Alaska, Washington and Oregon. While we appreciate the need to select the most qualified candidate, the last EPA Region 10 Administrator selected from Idaho was selected nearly twenty years ago, and it is time that another Idahoan fill this position.

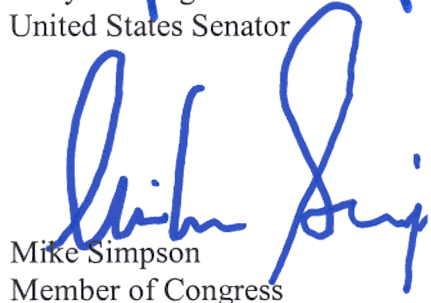
We are pleased, therefore, to bring to your attention a candidate whom we believe fulfills both criteria. Laurence Michael Bogert is wholly qualified by virtue of his education and experience to take on the many challenges of serving as EPA Region 10 Administrator. Further, as a native Idahoan and former counsel to Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne, Michael Bogert is intimately familiar with the natural resource opportunities and challenges of the western states which constitute Region 10. He is sensitive to the need to protect the environmental treasures of the west, while balancing the real life considerations of the citizens of this region and their livelihoods.

In our view, the President could not make a stronger selection for this post than Michael Bogert. We thank you for the opportunity to provide this input to your selection process. If we can further facilitate this matter in any way, please do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Larry E. Craig".

Larry E. Craig
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Simpson".

Mike Simpson
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Crapo".

Mike Crapo
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C.L. 'Butch' Otter".

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Member of Congress

Enclosure:
Resume, M. Bogert